

TOWN OF TIVERTON, RHODE ISLAND

TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE

Nancy L. Mello
Town Clerk

March 22, 2018

MAR 22 2018

Honorable President Donald J. Trump
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20500

Honorable Senator Jack Reed
1000 Chapel View Blvd., Suite 290
Cranston, RI 02920

Honorable Governor Gina M. Raimondo
State House
82 Smith St., Room 224
Providence, RI 02903

Honorable Senator Sheldon Whitehouse
170 Westminister St., Suite 200
Providence, RI 02903

Honorable Representative David N. Cicilline
1070 Main St., Suite 300
Pawtucket, RI 02860

Honorable Representative James R. Langevin
300 Centerville Rd., Suite 200
Warwick, RI 02886

Honorable Representative Dennis M. Canario
64 Birchwood Drive
Portsmouth, RI 02871

Honorable Senator Louis P. DiPalma
24 Sail Court
Middletown, RI 02842

Honorable Representative John G. Edwards
69 South Avenue
Tiverton, RI 02878

Honorable Senator Walter S. Felag, Jr.
51 Overhill Road
Warren, RI 02885

Honorable Senator James A. Seveney
72 Macomber Lane
Portsmouth, RI 02871

At the Tiverton Town Council Meeting held on February 26, 2018, the Tiverton Town Council approved the attached Resolution expressing opposition to President Trump's decision to allow Offshore Drilling in most of America's coastal waters. The Town of Tiverton expresses its opposition and respectfully requests the vigorous protection of our coastal waters.

If there are any questions please call our office.

Thank You.



Nancy L. Mello

Tiverton Town Clerk

TOWN COUNCIL
TOWN OF TIVERTON, RHODE ISLAND

**RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF TOWN OF TIVERTON EXPRESSING
OPPOSITION TO OFFSHORE DRILLING**

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF TIVERTON AS
FOLLOWS:**

WHEREAS, On January 4th, 2018, the Trump administration announced that it would allow offshore oil drilling in most United States coastal waters, an announcement vigorously opposed by all environmental groups and numerous governors and members of Congress, including a number of elected Republican officials; and

WHEREAS, President Trump's decision lifts the ban on offshore oil drilling that was imposed by President Barack Obama. It opens up approximately one billion acres of territory to oil drilling and exploration and would implement 47 drilling leases, the largest number of such leases offered in the history of the United States. In addition, the Trump administration has weakened offshore oil exploration and safety regulations, particularly safety equipment regulations, all of which poses a severe threat to the environmental well-being of our nation and the safety of countless people; and

WHEREAS, President Trump's decision also poses a significant threat to our nation's, and Rhode Island's, thriving tourism and fisheries industries. A 2014 industry report conducted by IHS Consulting reported that in 2013 alone, the total impact of travel and tourism in Rhode Island was \$2.8 billion dollars, representing 5.3 percent of the state's Gross Product and accounting for approximately 45,000 jobs - nearly ten percent of the state's total employment. Overall, tourism is the fourth largest economic sector in Rhode Island. Also, in a report prepared by the Cornell Cooperative Extension Marine Program, the fisheries industry in Rhode Island for 2010 employed 4,968 individuals; and

WHEREAS, Nationally, tourism represented a \$10.9 billion industry in the United States as of 2013, and the commercial fishing and seafood industry accounted for \$153 billion in sales for the year 2014. The Governors of Rhode Island, New Jersey, Delaware, Virginia, North Carolina, California, Oregon, Washington and the Republican Governors of Maryland and South Carolina are opposing President Trump's plan to open up approximately one billion acres of territory to offshore drilling and oil exploration. The threat to the economies of our coastal states and to the safety of those who work in the fisheries industry are too grave to allow these plans to proceed. It is time for everyone, including all Rhode Islanders, to lend their voices in opposition to the President's offshore drilling policies and in support of our country's vital natural resources and for those whose livelihoods depend upon the vigorous protection of our coastal waters;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF TIVERTON, RHODE ISLAND AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1: The Town of Tiverton expresses its opposition to President Trump's decision to allow offshore drilling in most of America's coastal waters; and be it further

SECTION 2: The Town Clerk of the Town of Tiverton is hereby authorized and directed to transmit duly certified copies of this resolution to President Donald J. Trump, Governor Gina M. Raimondo, the Rhode Island Congressional delegation, and the Rhode Island General Assembly.

SECTION 3: THAT THIS RESOLUTION SHALL BECOME EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY UPON ITS PASSAGE BY THE TIVERTON TOWN COUNCIL.

Denise DeMedeiros
Town Council President
Tiverton, Rhode Island